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Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development

Morocco:* draft resolution

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recognizing the role that international cooperation on science and technology can play in addressing the technological gap and the digital divide between the North and the South,

Recognizing also the vital role of new and emerging technologies in raising the productivity and competitiveness of nations and the need, inter alia, for capacity-building and measures promoting the transfer and diffusion of technologies to developing countries and public awareness of science and technology,

Reaffirming the need to enhance the science and technology activities of the United Nations organizations and the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in providing policy guidance, in particular on issues of relevance to developing countries,

Welcoming the selection of the substantive theme for the work of the Commission during the 2003-2004 intersessional period, "Promoting the application of science and technology to meet the United Nations Millennium Development Goals",[1] which are contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2]

Noting with appreciation the work of the Commission during its intersessional period 2001-2003 on its theme "Technology development and capacity-building for competitiveness in a digital society", in particular the information and

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2003, Supplement No. 11* (E/2003/31), chap. I. A.

[2] Resolution 55/2.

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communication technologies development indices, which serve as an important contribution to the preparation of the World Summit on the Information Society,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the impact of new biotechnologies, with particular attention to sustainable development, including food security, health and economic productivity,[3]

1. *Takes note* of the proposal for an integrated framework for biotechnology development within the United Nations system, requests the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with the relevant United Nations agencies, to conduct a feasibility study for establishing an interagency body to facilitate policy development, private sector involvement and capacity development in biotechnology, and invites the Secretary-General to report back to the General Assembly on this subject at its fifty-ninth session;

2. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, in collaboration with its secretariat, the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies ICT Task Force and the International Telecommunication Union, to jointly develop and publish, on a regular basis, information and communication technologies development indicators, which serve as an effective tool for tracking global progress in the use of such technologies to achieve internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;[2]

3. *Invites* the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in its coordinating role in the area of science and technology within the United Nations, to further contribute to the World Summit on the Information Society, in preparing a report for consideration at the second phase of the Summit, to be held in November 2005, on progress made by relevant United Nations agencies that deal with information and communication technologies in implementing the results of the first phase of the Summit, to be held in December 2003;

4. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that the Commission and its secretariat within the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development are provided with the necessary resources to enable it to better carry out its mandate;

5. *Calls upon* the Commission and its secretariat to interact closely with the Task Force on Science, Technology and Innovation of the United Nations Millennium Project in order to promote greater information exchange and coordination of activities.

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[3] A/58/76.